MINUTES FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA/LESBIAN GAY SUPPORT NETWORK
December 15, 1978

The meeting started at 1;30 P.M. at the Friends Meeting House. The agenda consisted of three main topics -

A. The switchboards in Pennsylvania.
B. The upcoming conference.
C. Co-ordinating work between the Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities and the Support Network.

A. We now have or will have seven switchboards in the State of Pennsylvania. These are in Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, State College, Allentown. Two more are in the process of collecting resources to start.

Some of the areas that were discussed and may be of some help to anyone who wishes to start a switchboard follow:

1. Be aware of "dating service" stereotype which the community at large will consider the service which you are offering.

2. This may be the only resource in your community so make sure that you have a compleate or as up to date resource list as you can. (More about this later.)

3. Make sure that you hook into the women's community in the state.

4. Keep in mind that you can incorporate your switchboard for funding and tax exempt status. Several opinions were discussed as to the feasibility of this move but no conclusions were reached. Each swithcboard must consider their options on this.

5. Membership dues were discussed as possible to keep the boards going.

6. Training sessions are essential to the switchboard volunteers. The Philadelphia Switchboard offers training sessions for any interested board. Call Jim Oliver at the Philly Board.

6. Publicity for your switchboard must be kept up continuously. PSA's, ads, stickers etc.

7. A log must be kept stating the type of call and what the volunteer discussed and what he/she told the caller. A suggestion was made that the volunteer read the log from their last time on the board.

It was moved by Joe Burns and seconded by George Bodamer that a statewide switchboard association be formed. This will consist of representatives of all the existing switchboards and Gaylines in the state. We will be able to facilitate exchange of information within the state. Also, resources will be exchanged between the Boards which will in time create a resource list for the entire State.

B. The Support Network Conference.

The Pennsylvania Lesbian/Gay Support Network Conference will be called "Pride 79". It will be held in Pittsburgh October 19 to 21. This will be at the Airport Holiday Inn. Anyone wishing to work on this please contact the Support Network representatives.

C. A motion was passed to call open meetings to discuss the problems of drug and alcohol abuse in the Lesbian/Gay community. This work will be co-ordinated with the Council for Sexual Minorities. The regional co-ordinators are;

Western - John Zinsmeister
705 Ivy St
Apt 2
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15232 412 665-0710

Upper Central - Dennis Derr
1428 Locust St.
Jersey Shore, Pa. 17740

Lower Central Steve Leshner
124 Emerald St.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17110

Northeast - Al Kester
849 N. 5th St.
Allentown, Pa. 18102

Southeast - George Bodamer
311 Franklin Av.
Cheltenham, Pa. 19012

It was moved that we donate $25 to the Friends for their help.

Remember to gather resources for the March meeting for transvetities and transexuals. Also please start to think for suggestions for workshops for the conference.

The upcoming meetings for the Network will be;

January - Saturday the 20th.
February - Saturday the 17th.
March - Saturday the 17th.
April - Saturday the 21st.

The Meeting ajourned at 4 P.M.

(Minutes poorly taken and submitted by John Zinsmeister)